

For nine weekends each summer, John Breslin morphs into a solider circa 1775 fighting for independence during the Revolutionary War.

Breslin became a member of a local group of re-enactors after his first brush with the group 22 years ago. From the uniforms to the tents and utensils they use to cook their food, members of the Northwest Territory Alliance, a not-for-profit organization that exists to educate contemporary audiences about the realities of the war for independence, demand authenticity.

The Alliance forms an umbrella of regiments, which re-enact significant battles of the war. Breslin is a member of the Second Virginia Regiment. In that capacity, he serves primarily as a soldier and Sunday pastor while wife, Liz, is a camp follower.

"Highland is the geographic center of where we travel," Breslin said. "We travel north to Green Bay, south to Kentucky, west to lowa and east to Ohio. I think what keeps me doing this is the ability to literally step back into the 18th century."

EVENT INFO

The Highland Council of
Community Events presents
Battle of the Ridge from 10 a.m. to
4 p.m. August 16 and 17. The event
includes authentic 18th Century
camps, clothing and crafts with live
entertainment by Highland Reign.

BATTLES: 11 a.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

OPENING COLORS: 10 a.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. Sunday.

ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATIONS:

2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

WHERE: Main Square Park

FEE: Free admission and parking

INFO: Call Karen (219) 972-1946 or Dawn (219) 923-0514.